

Happiness Pony

happinesspony.com

Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it?

September 2012

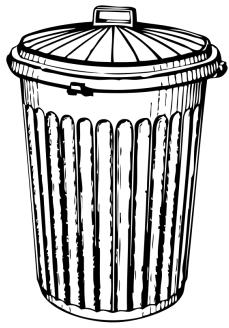


Amanda
Kidd
Schall
art from bicycles
amandakiddschall.com

Commentary on Sun Tzu:
"Maneuvering" (The Art of War)

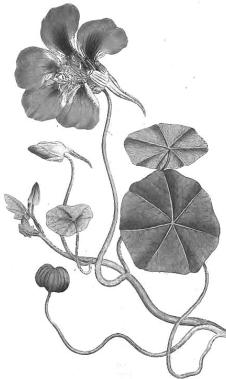
Do not swallow bait offered by the
enemy.

All you radicals living out of the
dumpster: what does Corporate
America know that you don't?



Scallywag
Ceramics
TIKI mugs

Exotic Curiosities
Worcester, MA
scallywagceramics.com



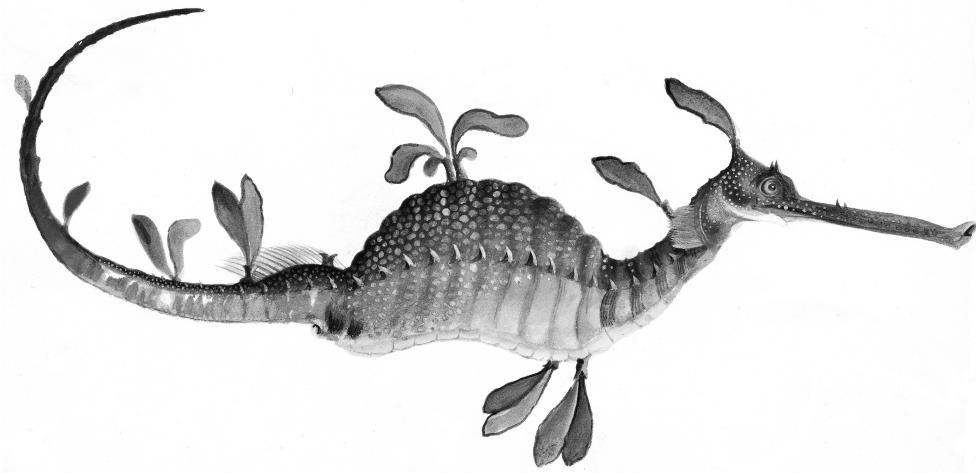
TV13
WCCA

Cable access for
Worcester on channel 13.
wccatv.com



Weedy Seadragon

The Weedy Seadragon is no dragon. It is a small bizarre fish related to the seahorse (which is not a horse). It is cool in the same way that most Australian animals are cool—it's yellow, has spines, doesn't make any logical sense, and is only ever found in Australia. This lil' humpbacked creature has fake nubby leaves all over it. What makes the WSD even more intense is the number of things it doesn't have. One: it is the sole member of the genus *Phyllopteryx*. Two: it can barely move and mostly just floats like a lazy sentient jellyfish. Three: it has no prehensile tail and so cannot ever anchor itself to stop moving. A unique combination of lazy and on the go. The Weedy Seadragon is the leafy oogle* of the sea. Floating around, drinking zooplankton through a toothless mouth, anchored to nothing, laying eggs, and asking for spare change. (Shane Capra. Illustration by William Buelow Gould from Sketchbook of Fishes, 1832.)



Edible Flower Review: Nasturtium

BY HOLLY C.K. JONES

I took my time, savoring the smoothness of the petals. My eyes were closed, for all practical purposes at least. Every last drop of consciousness was struggling to merge with the velvety texture upon my tongue. I slowly ran the tip of my tongue against the petal, again and again, each time allowing myself to draw the flower a little bit deeper into my mouth. The petals didn't taste like much, but where they drew together, at the base of the flower, a vivid tang rang out like a splash of angry orange in a sea of lavender and periwinkle and my tongue probed it. Synesthesia can be a side effect of extreme sensuality. The taste sharpened when I gave in to the temptation to chew. Then, finally, I reached the tip, a sweet counterpoint to the older sour sensation. Carefully guarded away from all but the most probing of florivores, the nasturtium had saved its climactic drop of sweetness til its last gasp of life. (Illustration by William Curtis from The Botanical Magazine, 1787.)

Knives of Worcester

In 2009, Worcester adopted a new ordinance fining anyone arrested for disturbing the peace, or on a warrant, while carrying a knife longer than two-and-a-half inches \$300, unless they have a good reason. The City Manager originally asked the City Council to crack down on even peaceable possession of pocketknives longer than one-and-a-half inches, unless carried for a job or outdoor recreation. (continued at right) ☀

Drink Review: Sqwincher

THE ACTIVITY DRINK. Look for the hallucinatory pink packaging of this most active of activity drinks. Military-grade Gatorade, the "Scourge of Balboa" must be mixed vigorously with water and drunk in copious amounts. THE ACTIVITY DRINK. Many drink it, few continue drinking it or espouse its virtues. Known as "Scarlett Cocaine" in the West Indies. THE ACTIVITY DRINK. At a Food Not Bombs near you. (Asa Needle)

Saints Francis & Thérèse Catholic Worker Community



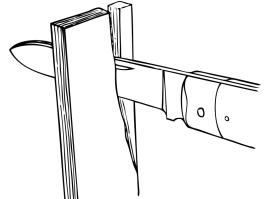
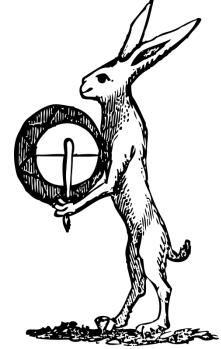
Performing the works of mercy
and opposing the works of war.
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*Oogle: Derogatory term used by punks to describe dirty punk hoboies they don't like.

HX Library



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politics. Across from Diamond
Chevrolet. Moving to Stone Soup
in November.



Back when the average person was more comfortable with using tools, and with hacking their environment, restrictions on pocketknives would have seemed as ludicrous as restrictions on pencils or watches. As Bruce Sterling wrote of multitools in general, "A multitool changes your perceptions of the world. Since you lack your previous untaught learned-helplessness, you will slowly find yourself becoming more capable and more observant. If you have pocket-scissors, you will notice loose threads; if you have a small knife you will notice bad packaging; if you have a file you will notice flashing, metallic burrs, and bad joinery. If you have tweezers you can help injured children, while if you have a pen, you will take notes. Tools in your space, saving your time. A multitool is a design education."

There's no publicly available information on how often people have been fined the \$300. There were 86 stabbings in 2006, 118 stabbings in 2007, 133 stabbings in 2009, 117 stabbings in 2010, and 93 stabbings in 2011. (I don't know how many there were in 2008.)

Knives carried daily by the Happiness Pony editorial team include the Victorinox Swiss Army Classic (1.5" blade) and the Ka-Bar Mini Dozier (2.25"). (Mike Benedetti)

I Don't Know

BY CALLISTA PERRY

I know almost nothing about anything. I don't know what **genre fiction** is. I had to have it explained to me by several fumbling explanationists. Their efforts were futile: now I neither remember nor care what genre fiction is.

Most people *pretend* to know stuff that they, in fact, have little or no knowledge of, in order to get through conversations, their days, and their lives. I do some of this pretending too, but more often—especially if I am in a group of people with whom I feel comfortable—I ask. This draws attention to my ill-informed state, and has prompted many an incredulous reaction. “You don't know who **Bruce Lee** is? Where have you been living? In a hole?” Nah, bro, I just never bothered to pay attention to anything other than what I am most interested in, plus I spent my childhood with my head buried in books the way an ostrich buries its head in the sand, reveling in the sweet relative oblivion provided by Tamora Pierce's fantastical stories. Ah, beautiful escape! (*continued at right*) ☺

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Judgement Day
Long ago you used to care
You made a super solemn swear
To build a Mecca in Central Mass
I bet you feel just like an ass
Cuz you left and now you're dead

*You say you're from Worcester
But I'm not sure
If you're not here now
Then you never were*

*You used to go to Duck Yao
But you broke their hearts and your
solemn vow
To stay in Worcester till you're dead
You must have nothing in your head
If Turtle Boy could see you now
He probably would screw a cow*
(Burt/Capra/Vargas)



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and affordable
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POCKET DOORBELL
It is in the Apple App
Store and will make your
phone a contemporary
doorbell. CNET called it
"Dumb, yes, but kind of
cool, too."

CLASSIFIED ADS

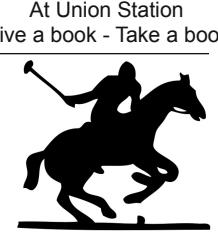
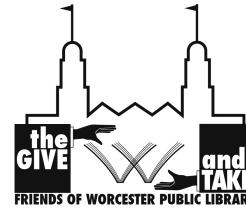
BOOKS, YIDDISH+ENGLISH

Not In The Same Breath by
Zackary Sholem Berger: 1/3 Yiddish,
1/3 English, 2/3 Pretty Pictures.
bit.ly/NITSBAmazon

Cat In The Hat and **Curious George** in Yiddish. yiddishcat.com

Escape me to Tortall! I swear I will be home in time for dinner.

So now, in the ripe old age of my mid-twenties, I don't know what **muscle cars** are, and even doubt their existence since I have never (cognitively) seen one. Do I know who **Kurt Vonnegut** is? I mean, sure, I know who Kurt Vonnegut is sort of, *Cat's Cradle* and all that, but do I *really* know who he is? The answer is an undeniable and resounding no. I have no idea what **Digimon** is or entails, or why it might be considered comparatively geeky in light of more mainstream media such as **Hey Arnold!** I have a rough idea of what the different “waves” of feminism are, but I don't really know. What is **second-wave feminism** *really*? I don't know, I do care, but I still don't know. I do not really understand what **anarchism** is, nor do I have any idea what the show **Aaah!!! Real Monsters** consisted of, since I never watched it. I have never been to **4chan** or even know how to spell it. I recently misidentified a **turnip** as a **radish**. My housemates, when watching the movie “Iron Man,” tried to explain the movie itself in the context of **The Avengers** and the **Marvel Cinematic Universe**, but their explanations were confusing—I had no idea what they were talking about. What is **big ball bowling**? How does it differ from **candlepin bowling**? Are the bowling balls simply larger, or are there other, more significant differences? I do not know. The other night, I was unable to identify music from **The Village People**, since I don't know who they are/were, nor did I know that they are/were gay. I said to my friend, “I don't know who that is. I am just a generally uninformed person.” He said, “Don't worry. I know.”



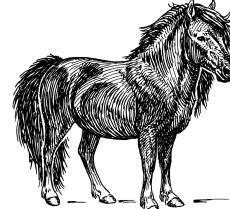
OLDE MOON

Handknit & crocheted accessories.

Strange treasures.

oldemoon.etsy.com

"Mothers News"
IT IS A
NEWSPAPER.
mothersnews.net



HAPPINESS PONY
Income Statement
August 2012

Revenue	
Donations from editors	\$79.21
Ad sales	\$0.00
Other donations	\$0.00
Expenses	
500 copies	\$77.21
Test copies	\$2.00
Net Income	\$0.00

Happiness Pony is a free monthly newspaper published in Worcester, Massachusetts. This issue was edited by Shane Capra, Jen Burt, Asa Needle, & Mike Benedetti. editor@happinespony.com

Fear of the Ghost

BY BRUCE “SNOW GHOST” RUSSELL

Watching for the fear of the ghost. His shadows reflect off the walls. You think you're alone. Then you hear the sounds of rattling chains, creaking doors opening and closing by themselves. It keeps you up at night, hearing the ghost is near, approaching. Mirrors have images. Walls have eyes, following you around, hissing in your ears. Hearing voices calling from beyond. Heavy footsteps are close.

Fear of the ghost that is coming to get you. Stalking. He's watching your every move.